Phosphate (SSP) fertilizer at Amjhore which utilises the acid produced from the pyrites so mined.

(b) to (e). So far there has been no report of any adverse affect or displacement of the local population on account of pollution due to mining and manufacturing operations of PPCL. However, the ground water pollution due to acidic water discharge from the mine and from the shale dumps has been countered by PPCL taking corrective measures like setting up of high capacity Mine Effluent Treatment plant to neutralise the acidic discharge. Neutral water is now being discharged after treatment. Besides this, PPCL has made provision for supply of potable water, in association with the Public Health Engineering Deparment, through pipeline in 6 adjacent villages where ground water was reported to have been affected due to pyrite mining.

[Translation]

Promotion of Hindi in Railways

3040. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote the use of Hindi in the Ministry; and

(b) the percentage of work being done in the Official Language Hindi in the Ministry and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The following steps have been taken to promote the use of Hindi in the Ministry of Railways :

The Ministry of Railways have been notified under rule 10(4) and specified for doing work in Hindi under Rule 8 (4) of the Official Language Rules - 1976. Various incentive schemes have been introduced. Efforts are being made to increase the number of Hindi stenographers by making direct recruitment and by imparting training in Hindi Stenography. In Board's office, the key boards of 151 Roman Typewriters have been replaced in Devnagri increasing the number of Devnagri typewriters to 227. Few applications including Budgetary and Parliamentary work have been taken-up on Personal Computers in Hindi. Efforts are being made to increase the use of Hindi on Personal computers. 28 meetings have been conducted with HODs of different directorates of Board's Office during last one year in order to review the progress of Hindi in various Directorates. In order to ensure the compliance of Official Language Rules, inspections/contact programmes are being carried out in different sections of Board's Office. Check-points have been set up in Railway Board Press, Central Registry and Issue and Despatch sections in order to ensure the compliance of Section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act and to ensure that all letters received from 'A' and 'B' regions are replied to in Hindi. For this purpose, physical checks are carried out by deputing staff on these check-points.

(b)
1. Percentage of letters issued in Hindi to 'A' 'B' and 'C' regions is 43.5%.
2. Compliance of section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 is 97.5%.
3. Percentage use of Hindi in Registers/ Diaries is 92.3%.
4. 20 sections have been nominated to do all their work in Hindi.
5. Percentage of Personal Computers made capable of working bilingually 84.8%.
6. Publication of Codes/manuals in Hindi 75%.

Appointment of Agents for sale of Tickets

3041. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Department has appointed agents for the sale of rail tickets and reservation of berths at Kota;

(b) if so, the names of those agents; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Two City Booking Agencies viz. M/s. Surendra Co., Rampura Bazar, Kota and M/s. Kapoor and Co., Aerodrome Circle are functioning at Kota for selling unreserved tickets to passengers. Besides, two Rail Travellers' Service Agents viz. M/s. Om Singh, Sohan Singh and M/s. Rajesh Traders have been appointed in Kota city to purchase the tickets from the railway reservation office on behalf of the intending passengers by standing in queue and realise the prescribed charges fixed by the Railway administration.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Reservation Quota

3042. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is persistent demand to increase the reservation quota from the Bangalore Railway Station in all trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). There is no specific demand for increase of reservations quota in all trains at Bangalore railway station.